

**IV. REMARKS**

Claims 1-10 and 16-25 are now pending in this application. Claims 11-15 are cancelled herein and claims 21-25 are added herein. By this amendment, claims 1-5, 7-9, and 17-20 have been amended. Applicants do not acquiesce in the correctness of the rejections and reserve the right to present specific arguments regarding any rejected claims not specifically addressed. Further, Applicants reserve the right to pursue the full scope of the subject matter of the original claims in a subsequent patent application that claims priority to the instant application.

Reconsideration in view of the following remarks is respectfully requested.

In the Office Action, claims 1-10, 17 and 19 are objected to because of several informalities. In response, Applicants have cosmetically changed the claims to address the objection. Accordingly, Applicants request withdrawal of the objection.

In the Office Action, claims 3, 5, 7-10, 18-20 are objected to but appear to be allowable if rewritten to incorporate all the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. Based on the remarks below Applicants respectfully contend that the independent claims 1 and 15 are allowable as currently written. Note that because new independent claim 21 merely incorporates the language of claim 3 plus an additional feature, Applicants contend that claim 21 is also in condition for allowance. Similarly, dependent claims 22-25, which depend from claim 21 are similarly in condition for allowance.

In the Office Action, claims 1, 2, 4, 6, 16, and 17 are rejected under 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by Lowrey *et al.* (U.S. Pat. No. 5,328,810). With respect to claim 1, Applicants submit that Lowrey fails to disclose each and every feature of the claimed invention as is required under 102(e). For example, Lowrey does not disclose or suggest *recrystallizing*

the polycrystalline semiconductor layer. (emphasis added)(*See* claim 1, as similarly recited in claim 16.)

Interpreting Lowrey only for the purposes of this response, Applicants submit that, to the contrary, Lowrey merely discloses a method for reducing the masking pitch of a photolithographic process. Title. There is simply no teaching, or suggestion, in Lowrey of any recrystallizing whatsoever. Lowrey is entirely silent regarding any recrystallizing. In the Office Action the Examiner alleges that Lowrey does have "recrystallizing the polycrystalline semiconductor layer to have a crystallinity substantially similar to that of the base structure" and cites "Column 7, lines 29-47" for the location of this disclosure in Lowrey. Office Action, Page 3. However, the section of the specification (Col. 7, lines 29-47) cited by the Examiner is entirely devoid of any disclosure, teaching, or suggestion of any type of a recrystallizing of a polycrystalline semiconductor layer, as in the present invention. Additionally, Lowrey in its entirety is completely silent regarding any type of recrystallizing whatsoever.

Accordingly, Applicants submit that there is no disclosure or suggestion in Lowrey of a method that includes a step of recrystallizing a polycrystalline semiconductor layer with respect to claim 1. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

In the Office Action, independent claim 16 is rejected under the same rationale as claim 1. As a result, Applicants herein incorporate the arguments submitted above with respect to claim 1. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request withdrawal of the rejection.

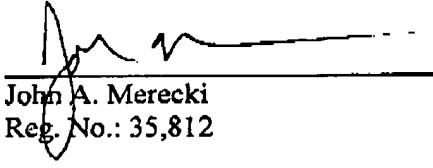
With respect to dependent claims 2-10, and 17-20, Applicants herein incorporate the arguments presented above with respect to the independent claims from which the claims depend. The dependent claims are believed to be allowable based on the above arguments, as well as for their own additional features.

**V. CONCLUSION**

In light of the above remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that all claims are in condition for allowance. Should the Examiner require anything further to place the application in better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the number listed below.

Respectfully submitted,

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